

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of: : Group Art Unit: 1745  
Richard Scott Bourgeois  
Application No. 10/750,463 : Examiner: Mark Ruthkosky  
Filed: December 31, 2003 : Response to: Mail Date 20070330  
For: OXIDANT AND FUEL DISTRIBUTION FOR A FUEL CELL ASSEMBLY

**RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT UNDER 35 U.S.C. 121:**  
**WITHOUT TRAVERSE**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This is in response to the Restriction Requirement mailed from the United States Patent Office on April 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2007. The Examiner identifies: Group I, Claims 1-20, drawn to an oxidant distribution system, classified in class 429, subclass 34; Group II, Claim 21, drawn to a method of oxidant distribution in a fuel cell, classified I class 429, subclass 12; Group III, Claims 22-23, drawn to a fuel distribution system, classified in class 429, subclass 34; and Group IV, Claim 24 drawn to a method of fuel distribution in a fuel cell, classified in class 429, subclass 12.

Examiner requires restriction between Groups I - IV.

Accordingly, pursuant to 35 U.S.C. 121, Applicants hereby elect to prosecute Group I, without traverse, Claims 1-20, drawn to an oxidant distribution system, classified in class 429, subclass 34.

Applicants, of course, reserve the right to file a divisional application covering the subject matter of the non-elected claims. Receipt of the initial Office Action on the merits is awaited.

If any issue remains unresolved, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact Applicants' undersigned representative at the telephone number below.

Respectfully submitted,

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